

NEWSLETTER

29TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY
TIME**Pride is the Beginning of All Sin**

Many Catholics fall into the sin of pride without even knowing it. This happens when people take it upon themselves to make important moral judgements and decisions concerning matters of right and wrong. A good example would be all those Catholics who chose to reject marriage and instead elect to live with a partner and engage in full-on sexual relations based on some form of contraception. Many also freely chose to have one or two children outside of wed-lock. Still others go the way of artificial insemination or look to scientific solutions to fertility issues. Other Catholics make a decision to approve of sodomistic relationships.

When Catholics make choices such as the ones just mentioned they are falling into the devil's trap who is always trying to seduce men and woman into thinking they can be the arbiters of good and evil and cause them to imagine themselves like God. This is the sin of pride at work and which is the source of all sin. Adam and Eve were the first humans to fall into this trap of becoming too *high-minded* for their own good and paved the way for sickness, disease and death by siding with the devil.

Twenty first century Catholics are often making the same mistakes and pay little or no regard to that which is true and that which is revealed by God for our own good. The Collect from a recent Sunday Mass reminds us, '*O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred law upon love of You and of neighbour, grant that by keeping your precepts we may merit to attain eternal life*' Amen.

People of course are free to make whatever decisions they like but they must do so mindful of the consequences based on the universal law that we will reap what we sow. If we want to play God, then God permits us to so do. God however builds into the law of sin the idea that whatever we do, we will do to our own detriment or our own benefit, depending on the action.

The more we participate in moral evil outflowing from the sin of pride, the less free we will become as we find ourselves increasingly under the controlling and oppressive power of Satan.

Jesus, on the other hand encourages us to go the way of humility and to render unto God the things of God. Those Catholics who are guided by the teaching of the Church and which is beautifully set out in the Catechism of the Catholic Church are following this path of humility, in accepting that God knows best when it comes to matters of good and evil. Catholics who seek the grace of God and His will for their lives prosper in holiness and indeed in temporal well-being.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is the ultimate search engine used by truly sensible and wise people who treasure its revealed truths and doctrines even those which are at first difficult to fathom. Those courageous souls who go this way of faith know in their hearts that God will always make a way for those things which to us seem impossible for our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth. As Psalm 51: 3 reminds us 'For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight'. Amen

John Cassidy

MASS INTENTIONS**Oct 16th, 2021**

6pm - Pro Populo

Oct 17th, 2021

9am— John Higgins RIP

11am— Owen Dunn (Anniv)

For weekday mass intentions please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

Confession on Saturday between
5.15-5.45 pm

or by appointment.

ADORATION**Every Saturday****from 5pm until 5.45***Advanced
notice.**On 31**October 2021*

FALL BACK

Readings for this & next two Sundays

1st Reading— Isaiah 53: 10-11,
Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, 22 response v 22
2nd Reading - Hebrews 4; 14-16;
Gospel – Mark 10; 35-45

1st Reading— Jeremiah 31: 7-9,
Psalm 125 response v 3
2nd Reading - Hebrews 5; 1-6;
Gospel – Mark 10; 46-52

1st Reading— Deuteronomy 6: 2-6,
Psalm 17;2-4, 47, 51 response v 2
2nd Reading - Hebrews 5; 1-6;
Gospel – Mark 10; 46-52

'Allow us to sit one at your right and the other at your left in your Glory'

James and John want to position themselves to be influential figures With Jesus. How does Jesus feel about their suggestion. Jesus is aware of his impending suffering and death. This is the 'cup' which he asks the Father to spare him in Gethsemane. It seems the brothers have no problem about accepting this cup; do they know what they are saying?

With such thoughts on Jesus' mind, the clumsy ambition of the two disciples leaves him dispirited. Yet he teaches them, still he tries to get the message across: about how tyrants operate out of the same kind of ambition as James and John, and how the disciples must resist.

Realising that Jesus is our servant is what helps us to be servants to others. To think of the kingdom of God in terms of power and status is simplistic and small-minded. Am I generally self-seeking in my relations with God and others? I ask God to open my mind so that I think like Jesus.

Christian leadership is not like human authority nor is it based upon power and lording it over others. Quite the contrary, it is genuine when expressed in service. Jesus came not to be served but to serve. What about me? How am I of serve to others?

Fr. Christopher

Truth must disturb us – ... We know that there are Christians who are never restless: their lives are always the same, there is no movement in their hearts, they lack restlessness. Why? Because restlessness is a sign that the Holy Spirit is working inside us... Freedom must disturb us, it must constantly question us, so that we might always plunge deeper into what we really are. In this way we will discover that the journey of truth and freedom is an arduous one that lasts a lifetime. Remaining free is arduous, it is a struggle; but it is not impossible."

Pope Francis

MEDITATION taken from Sister Faustina's Diary

Bless This Pen

As I took the pen in hand, I addressed a short prayer to the Holy Spirit and said, "Jesus, bless this pen so that everything You order me to write may be for the glory of God." Then I heard a voice: Yes, I bless it, because this writing bears the seal of obedience to your superior and confessor, and by that very fact I am already given glory, and many souls will be drawing profit from it. My daughter, I demand that you devote all your free moments to writing about My goodness and mercy. It is your office and your assignment throughout your life to continue to make known to souls the great mercy for them and to exhort them to trust in My bottomless mercy (Diary, 1567).

My Prayer Response:

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for blessing the pen of St. Faustina with which she wrote under holy obedience. Her faithfulness fo Your continues to inspire people around the world. He Diary has now been translated onto dozens of languages and reaches out to millions in need of Your mercy.

Only a Single Drop

My secretary, write that I am more generous toward sinners than toward the just. It was for their sake that I came down from heaven; it was for their sake that My Blood was spilled. Let them not fear to approach Me; they are most in need of My mercy (Diary, 1275)

During Holy Hour in the evening, I heard the words, You see My mercy for sinners, which at this moment is revealing itself in all its power. See how little you have written about it; it is only a single drop. Do what is in your power, so that sinners may come to know My goodness (Diary, 1665)

My Prayer Response:

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for Your exceptional love for sinners. May we sinners take full advantage of the mercy You described to St. Faustina. May we come to know Your goodness.

Response to Afghan Refugees

Caritas Westminster is co-ordinating the diocese's response to refugees newly arrived from Afghanistan. In particular they are looking for :

- Anyone who can help find accommodation, including homes for large families
- Speakers of Pashtu, Dari or Farsi who could help with interpretations
- Teachers of English (ESOL)

Co-ordinated groups of volunteers who can welcome and befriend Afghans arriving in your area.

The response will need to be well co-ordinated and you will need to work with your local authority. Please contact Caritas Westminster Volunteer Service if you or the organisation you are involved in might be able to help: go to <https://www.caritasvs.org.uk/volunteer-to-support-afghan-refugees.php> or email cvs@rcdow.org.uk

Write to your MP regarding the Nationality and Borders Bill

Caritas Westminster and the Jesuit Refugee Service are urging Catholics to write to their MPs about the Nationality and Borders Bill. The proposals in this Bill are unfair, unjust and will not work. They also do nothing to address the root causes of forced migration and trafficking.

Find out more and how to respond here: <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/nationality-and-borders-bill-caritas-westminster-response-1232.php>

Arrival of Little Amal,

Little Amal, a 3.5m puppet of a refugee girl, is walking from the border of Turkey / Syria to Manchester, 8000km, in search of her mother. On her journey she will visit Westminster Cathedral on **Monday 25th October at 2pm**, where she will be welcomed by Cardinal Vincent. You are invited to join Cardinal Vincent for this Welcome Liturgy and to learn more about migrants and refugees. It is during half term week, an opportunity for families to come together. Further information about Little Amal's journey is available at <https://www.walkwithamal.org/> Please be seated by 1.45pm.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

(All applications will be accepted until 14 November)

RCIA If you or anyone you know who wishes to learn more about the Catholic Faith and be received into the Church. Then please pick an application form from the table in the lobby of the Church.

Confirmation If you are in year 9 and would like to be Confirmed, then kindly take an application form from the table in the lobby. Please fill it in and hand it back to the parish office. The course will start in December 2021. Sessions will be on Saturdays at 3.30 pm. Please, see the dates below:

4 December, 11 December, 8 January, 15 January, 22 January, 29 January, 5 February, 26 February, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March. April—volunteering, May—Confirmation.

First Holy Communion If you are in year 3 and would like your son or daughter to make their first Holy Communion. Please collect an application form from the table in the lobby. fill it in and hand it to the parish office. Parents Meeting will happen on 2 December 2021.

Dates of First Reconciliation Couse:

9 January 2022, 16 January, 23 January, 30 January, 6 February, 20 February 2022

First Reconciliation on 26 February 2022

Dates of First Communion Couse:

27 February, 6 March, 13 March, 20 March, 27 March, 3 April 2022

First Holy Communion on 9 April 2022

Diocese of Westminster
Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall
297 Westferry Road, Millwall. E14 3RS

Telephone: 020-7987-4114; Email: millwall@rcdow.org.uk; <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millwall/>



Fr Christopher Silva

Parish Priest,

Mrs Katherine Woznicka

Parish Secretary

The office may be contacted by phone:

Monday to Friday 9am-2pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

Those who might be in Need

If you are aware of anyone who might be in need at this difficult time, do let the parish office know, by giving their details after having consulted with them. We can assist with food vouchers and one of our neighbours are willing to help with groceries. Do let us know if anyone might need help. Thank you, Fr Christopher

ALTAR SERVERS If you have made your First Holy Communion, and would like to be an Altar Server, could you submit your details to the parish office. We hope to commence training initially after the 11am Mass. Lauren, Joseph and Izabella will conduct your training. Thank you. Fr Christopher

BAPTISMS can happen now on a Saturday morning or afternoon.

Parents are asked to come to see Fr Christopher first. Next, they must attend a 2-session Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – The **next baptismal courses will be on Wednesday, 1st December 2021 at 7pm**. Please, drop an email to the office if you are interested, also to book your appointment with Fr Chris. Later, we will need your email address to invite you to join the session on Zoom. Before you do the course you need to come to the office to buy a baptism pack (£10).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CLEAN THE CHURCH. If you can spare an hour or two monthly to help us to keep the church clean, please, contact the office to discuss details. Thank you.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £168.26 envelopes: £252.00 contactless collection last weekend: £87. total: **£507.26**
Standing orders in September **£2464.00**

Second Collection for CAFOD last weekend **£312.00**

As a charity we rely on your donations only. As you have not been allowed to come to the church, we only were receiving donations set up as standing orders. We will be grateful for your financial support when you are back.

Your new sets of gift aided envelopes are available for collection before/after any mass or from the office.

Alternatively you could send your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

Thank you for your Generosity

WRCDT Charity No: 233699

**ST EDMUND'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Westferry Road, Millwall E14 3RS
020 7987 2546

**BISHOP CHALLONER
COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS**

Commercial Road, London E1 0AB
020 7791 9500